



BABES WITH AXES

By Bob Fennessy

On Saturday, July 22, the Community Center for the Performing Arts and KRVM proudly welcome back Babes With Axes for a fully seated concert.

Babes With Axes is a band that was born at the WOW Hall when four female singer-songwriters joined forces. Conceived as a one-time gig, the act quickly captured the hearts and minds of local music-lovers who demanded more.

Festival appearances and two concert recordings (both made at the WOW Hall) followed.

The quartet of Debbie Diedrich, Katie Henry, TR Kelley and Laura Kemp performed together (while pursuing their individual careers) until 1998, when Henry's relocation to Chicago made continuing the act impossible -- except for the occasional reunion performance, most recently in 2014.

I thought it would be fun to do

a "group interview" with the Babes via email with Laura in Eugene, TR out in Swisshome, Katie in Davis CA and Debbie in Maryland.

BOB: Pre-Babes, give us a brief run-down of your artistic careers?

LAURA: I was playing coffee houses and festivals as a solo singer songwriter and also as a duo with Katie Henry.

KATIE: I was also playing in coffee houses and festivals with a

few of other people. Mainly with Laura, but also with my friends Jimmy Bozeman and Lea Jones. I was in school at the University of Oregon studying biology and chemistry because I worried that I couldn't make a living as a musician.

TR: I had been playing bass in bar and hotel-circuit cover bands since 1979. I didn't start writing originals until 1990 and was then "discovered" by Tom Intondi at a

WOW Hall basement open-mike series he was hosting. He invited me to be on the multi-artist *Fast Folk Eugene* sampler project in early 1993, which was where the Babes idea was hatched. Debbie had heard Laura and Katie together; she wanted to sing with them, and then how about that bass-player from *Fast Folk*? Lets do a round-robin songwriter showcase but let's back each other up on harmonies and extra instruments.... it was only supposed to be one show.

BOB: My file has the first gig as Dec. 2, 1993 at a First Thursday event here sponsored by the NW *Music News*. Any memories of that event?

TR: I was 8 months pregnant.

LAURA: I have a vague recollection of some folks showing up for the gig, not realizing it was folk music, as the name might lead one to believe otherwise... I think they thought it was going to be a punk concert.

BOB: After that, it seems you went from coffee houses to festival sized gigs — playing for thousands of people at a time. How did that feel to you?

KATIE: Well, it felt great. We

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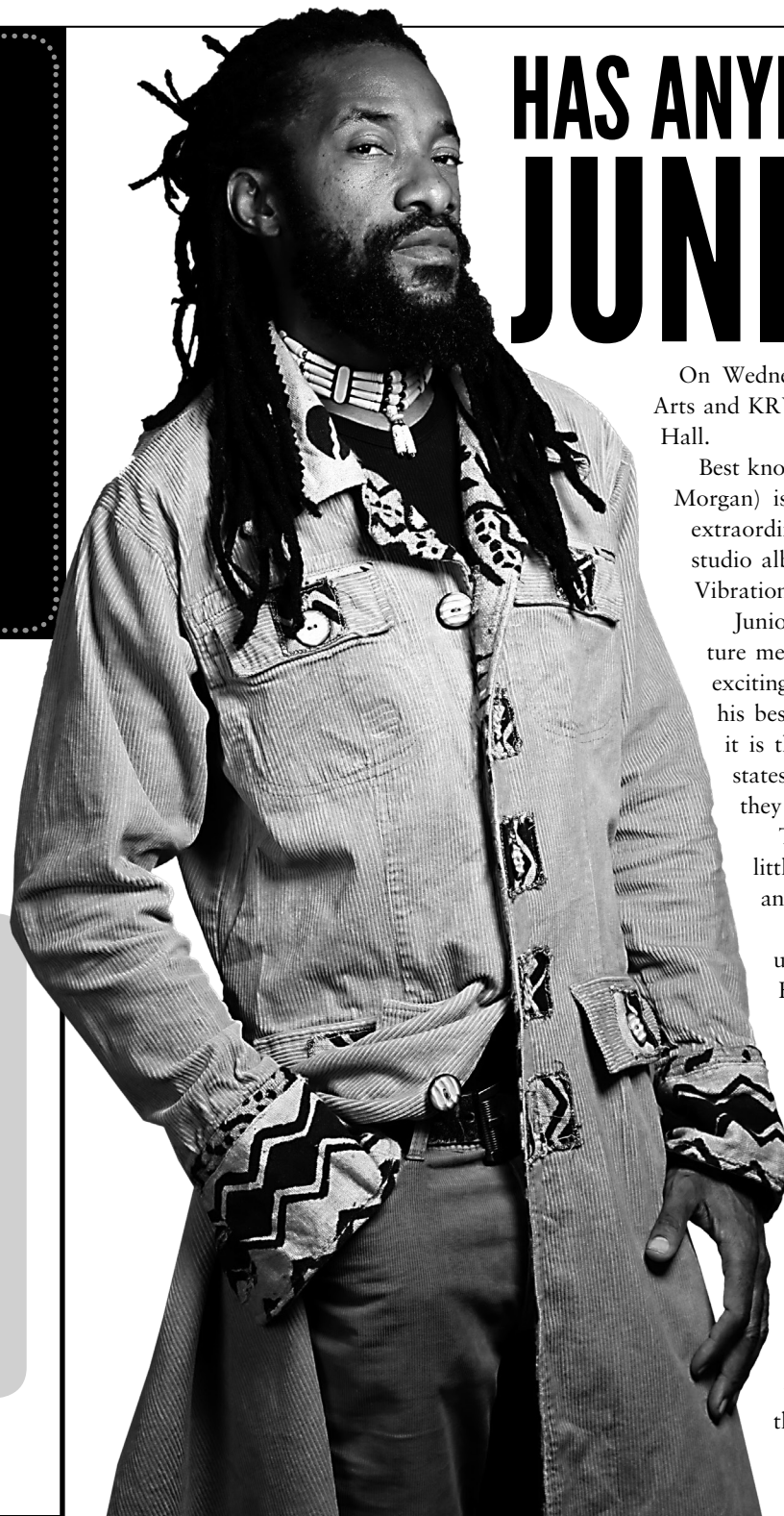
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HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN JUNIOR KELLY



On Wednesday, August 9, the Community Center for the Performing Arts and KRVM's *Zion Train* proudly welcome Junior Kelly to the WOW Hall.

Best known for his mega hit "Love So Nice", Junior Kelly (born Keith Morgan) is one of Jamaica's finest conscious voices and a songwriter extraordinaire. Reggae music's most prolific exponent has released ten studio albums, most recently *Urban Poet* for Austrian based label Irie Vibrations.

Junior describes the record as "Pop Culture", where roots and culture meet pop, which is an eclectic mix with incredible live riddims, exciting musicianship and vocal artistry at its best. Kelly claims it as his best work to date and is extremely happy with the outcome, as it is the first time he was able to have such artistic freedom. He states, "it was an absolute pleasure working with Irie Vibrations as they listened to me and gave me full autonomy to express myself."

The album has 16 beautiful tracks that encompass reggae, a little dancehall, R&B, soul and jazz that show the artist's growth and maturity.

Kelly's breakthrough song "Love So Nice" pondered the universal question: "If love so nice, tell me why it hurt so bad?" His commanding juxtaposition of precisely timed, dee-jayed rhymes and melodic singing, coupled with vivid story telling, took the song to the top of the Jamaican charts (a position it held for 15 weeks). A debut album of the same name was released in 2001 by US based Distributor VP Records. Sold out concerts established Junior as a headline act, in addition earning numerous awards and major success on several international charts.

Since his debut, Junior Kelly has released a succession of hit singles and albums, furthering his renown as a skillful mediator between traditional roots music's spirituality, social conscience and dancehall's gritty everyday realism. Junior oft utilizes rich multi textured one-drop rhythms to propel his thoughtful lyrics into selections that stir the soul as readily as they move your feet.

Tickets are \$14 in advance, \$16 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★

WOW HALL NOTES

The Community Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Historic Woodmen of the World Hall (W.O.W. Hall), 291 W 8th, Eugene, Or 97401, (541)687-2746, info@wowhall.org, www.wowhall.org, Box office hours Mon-Fri Noon-6:00 PM. Printed monthly by Western Oregon Webpress, Circulation 3,800, General Support made possible by a grant from Lane Arts Council with support from City of Eugene Cultural Services Division, Copyright 2017 All rights reserved Notes Staff: *Copy Editor & Advertising Representative* - Bob Fennessy, *Layout & Design* - James Bateman CCPA Staff: *Membership Coordinator & Publicist* - Bob Fennessy, *Stage Manager* - Justin Showker, *Asst Stage Manager* - Davis Koier, Robert Chappel, *Office Managers* - Ross Shuber, Zac Townsend, *Bookkeeper* - Melissa Swan, *Volunteer Coordinator* - Laura Farrelly, *House Managers* - Sam Harmon, Jaley Osuna *Concessions Managers* - Angela Lees, Shawn Lynch, Kambra Morris-Mitzner *Custodian* - Daniel Noall, Eric Herz, *Lighting Director* - Cody Owen, *Volunteer Staff*: Zac Townsend, Dan Wathen, *Art Gallery Director* - Sam Harmon, *Poster Distribution* - WOW Hall Poster Crew, CCPA Board of Directors: Chair: Aaron Dietrich, Vice Chair: Mike Janes, Treasurer: Marjorie Bridges, Secretary: Jordan Cogburn, Members: Hannah Finley, Marlene Monette, Jim Showker, Jon Silvermoon, Daylon Sloan



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I OWE MY SOUL TO AYLA NEREO

*"One of the most poignant voices currently floating about...
 Ayla Nereo is an otherworldly artist who shares the fruits of her soul."
 -The Huffington Post*

On Friday, July 21, the Community Center for the Performing Arts and University of Oregon Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome Ayla Nereo back to the WOW Hall with special guests Cornflower, Sounjaneer and Eugene's own Matt Grieger.

Last here in October 2014 (with The Polish Ambassador), Ayla Nereo's voice hits straight to the heart. With an array of loop-pedals by her side, she builds layer upon layer of vocal melodies into fierce, sweeping harmonies and weaves syncopated threads of guitar, kalimba, piano and percussion into each live performance. Her lucid storytelling and lyrical imagery are water for the thirsty soul; words and sounds that crack open the heart, and embody the many folds of our own selves.

Raised on opera, 60s folk, and psychedelic rock, Ayla's music touches both the timeless and modern; where prayerful circle songs, mantra, and roots music meet ancient beats and folktronica. Crafting an immersive soundscape we can dive into, Ayla's performances are each their own inspired journey -- an enchanting and poignant experience that holds you by the heart and doesn't let go.

"Can you fall in love with a sound? Can love itself be expressed in sound? Because if so, this is surely that sound..." ~ *Collapse Board*

Ayla Nereo came from the hills of Sonoma County, a child grown on blackberries and books. The lines of vision and waves of hearing brushed her shoulder one day, and it started to come out as music. Since then, Ayla has released two full-length albums and is currently finishing her third, as well as three new music videos.

CORNFLOWER

Based in Ashland, Cornflower is a vocalist, live-looper and one-man jam-band. His music is a fusion of organic a cappella soultronica.

With influences ranging from Phish to Michael Jackson and Al Jarreau to Björk. Cornflower's music is a mix of experimental soul, world-funk, jam and electronica with a delicate balance of structure and improvisation. His

'vocal instrumentation' brings you into the moment, using 'beatboxing' to set your body in motion to his soaring melodies and atmospheric grooves that are looped right before your eyes.

Cornflower has studied with ten-time Grammy winner Bobby McFerrin. His debut album *Journey Into Sound* was released in 2009.

Cornflower's new studio single, "Monks on Main Street" (produced by Bret Leveck) is his most focused and potent material to date.

Cornflower blends genres creating uplifting sonic landscapes with his all-vocal live-looping lasagne!

SOUNJANEER

Lady Alex Forester, Aka Sounjaneer, calls her genre Temple Funk: an experimental nomad rock integrated with slam poetry and cosmic beats with influences in psychedelia and jazzy undertones. Based in her hometown of Williams, Oregon, she records for Rabbit Hole Hungama, an underground collective open-source studio.

"I'm just your everyday wizard flying through the cosmos like a bumblin' bee spreadin' pollen of purpose," explains Lady Alex. "Nourishing and empowering all my fellow beings with these medicinal melodies. The music is in my hands and heart, the dance in my toes, with it I soar through the great beyond,

unknown and unafraid. We'll spark a match of divinity, a whole other dimension exists between the lines of perceptions and participation is key! Jump in with me; did you know you were already free?"

MATT GRIEGER

Matt Grieger was raised in a town called Lake Jackson, Texas; he moved to Eugene at 11 and settled into his first band within the first year of residence. It was called One Eyed Doris, which later became Terminal Velocity.

At South Eugene High School, Grieger was in the band Run Like the Dickens, which was a huge local success and played venues such as Cozmic, Island Park, Sam Bonds Garage, WOW Hall, and even went on to record a small EP.

Terminal Velocity, returning from a short hiatus, decided it was time for another name change -- Union Orchard. UO played at The Boreal and Wandering Goat, but it mainly focused on recording alongside new endeavors, like photo shoots, music videos, and even an appearance on a college radio show. Finally, Union Orchard successfully recorded another EP's worth of songs.

Last year, Grieger decided to embark on a significant journey to unfold his music career as a solo artist.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Doors open at 8:30 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★





MATISYAHU UNDERCURRENT

By Casey Callahan

On Tuesday, July 11, the CCPA and University of Oregon Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome back Matisyahu.

Matthew Miller, better known by his stage name, Matisyahu, (Matthew in Hebrew) broke out in the music scene in 2004 as a Hasidic Orthodox Jew who sang reggae songs about his faith. Matthew was raised in a large secular Jewish family in White Plains, New York. The 37 year old says his spiritual journey has changed dramatically over the years.

Matisyahu says his real first inspiration came from the Jamaican reggae legend Bob Marley. He was interested in understanding why Bob Marley was referencing the Old Testament in Judism. Because of this, Matthew wanted to seek out his Jewish roots and found himself on a study trip to Israel. He wanted to understand his identity with Judaism and this idea of being closer to God.

As his top 40 hit, "King Without a Crown" made him a sensation (with his beard and *yamaka*) people were intrigued. During that time so close to his

Jewish faith, he devoured the torah and was inspired by the texts. He says that time in his life was a dark experience, as well as a time of light. He began to reevaluate everything he took as absolute truth and started making decisions for himself as to what was right and what was wrong. Shaving his beard in 2011 was a pivotal moment in claiming his identity.

As a singer-songwriter Matisyahu has been on a journey inward for more than a decade. The journey has been private and public. The journey has at times been explicitly external, even while being driven by internal change. Now nearly thirteen years after the release of his first studio record, Matisyahu and his band have done something unmatched in his past repertoire; they have crafted that journey into a musically thematic eight song movement.

The band features longtime guitarist Aaron Dugan, Dub Trio's bassist and drummer Stu Brooks and Joe Tomino, and keyboard virtuoso BigYuki -- and the journey starts with them. The band improvised for hours in the studio with Matisyahu watching on as an admirer without singing a single

lyric. Out of the improvisations grew melodic themes, rhythmic peaks and valleys, blissful and proto-song guitar passages, deep dub meditations and ultimately an inspired instrumental record unto itself.

Only once the band had crafted this musical narrative, did Matisyahu begin to work on a lyrical narrative of his own -- a lyrical narrative that is simultaneously informed and integrated with the music -- yet driven by Matisyahu's own personal journey. The result is *Undercurrent*, Matisyahu's sixth studio album.

It is truly a beautiful sight to see this artist's transformation. An authentic soul contributing to the balance and healing of the Earth, Matisyahu is one of the few musicians who has emerged from the controls and restrictions that religion and social conditioning has put on us all. Only when he fully accepted it did he liberate himself from it. And now he truly is living life from his truth, on his terms and from his heart.

This is a show you don't want to miss! Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$28 day of show. Doors open at 8:00 and show time is at 9:00. ★

WOW IT'S THE COUNTRY FAIR

The 2017 Oregon Country Fair will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 7, 8, 9.

During the Fair, the nonprofit Community Center for the Performing Arts co-hosts the WOW Hall/KLCC Booth, located at the back of the Main Stage meadow. This "showpiece" booth was constructed in 2011 and was designed by Scott Felsher of Rainbow Valley Design & Construction.

The WOW Hall operates a pack check service during public hours. You are welcome to bring your backpack, ice chest, costume, stroller or what have you to the booth and leave it there. For the nominal fee of \$2, WOW Hall staff and volunteers will watch it for you and make sure you get it back.

Temperatures can vary during the public hours, but you probably don't want to carry everything for every eventuality around with you. Here's a tip: wear your bathing suit under your street clothes and then when it gets hot, leave the duds with the dudes at the booth and stroll the Fair in cool comfort! You can access your belongings throughout the day.

With the Fair Family itself camped at times great walking distances from Main Stage, it might be worth a couple dollars (to a good cause) not to have to travel back to the campsite several times a day. Bring in a daypack and we'll keep it handy.

You can also find out about upcoming shows and volunteer opportunities, pick up the *WOW Hall Notes*, preorder merchandise, and become a supporting member of the Community Center for the Performing Arts.

The WOW Hall booth is open during public hours, 11:00 am through sweep. And in case you are wondering what goes on in the other half of the booth: KLCC will be broadcasting the music from Main Stage on 89.7 FM all weekend! ★

ROCK CAMP CONCERT

On Friday, August 4, the Community Center for the Performing Arts proudly hosts the Music's Edge Summer Rock Camp Showcase. The CCPA is celebrating TEN YEARS of hosting the Music's Edge Rock Camp for kids ages 10-18 at the WOW Hall.

In just one week, the students at the Music's Edge Summer Rock Camp start bands, choose material and practice, practice, practice under the guidance of instructors Tim McLaughlin, Zak Johnson, John Raden and John Shipe. On Monday morning it sounds impossible, but by Friday the students have polished their acts and are ready for the big show, with all the sound and lights the WOW Hall has to offer.

Please support these young rock musicians, or you will have nothing but hip-hop and techno to listen to in your old age! The bands will perform from the youngest to the oldest, and will also be headlining the Saturday Market Stage the following day.

Admission is \$5 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 7:30. ★

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ABBEY ROAD LIVE! PRESENTS: SGT PEPPER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

"It was FIFTY years ago today Sgt. Pepper taught the band to play..."

On Thursday, July 13, the Community Center for the Performing Arts and KRVM proudly host Abbey Road LIVE! performing "Sgt Pepper" with horns, strings and sitar.

Known for its spot-on album recreations of *Abbey Road* and *Magical Mystery Tour*, Abbey Road LIVE! will honor what some have called the single most important record in rock 'n' roll history: *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band*. Originally released on June 1, 1967, *Sgt. Pepper* redefined the boundaries of popular music.

Hailing from the musical mecca of Athens GA, Abbey Road LIVE! is not your typical Beatles tribute act. No mop top haircuts or faux British accents here. Instead, Abbey Road LIVE! specializes in live performances of the more complex Beatles' repertoire from the band's studio years. *US News & World Report* alls them, "one of the world's premier Beatles cover bands."

Abbey Road LIVE! will perform *Sgt. Pepper* in its entirety with orchestral accompaniment. Violins, sitar, cello, clarinets and trumpet will "pepper" the mix as the band brings to life this ground-breaking work. The show will also feature a second set of Beatles favorites that will keep you dancing and singing along all night. A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

Since 2002, Abbey Road LIVE! has been rocking the music of the Beatles at clubs, theatres, festivals and private events. Initially a tribute to the monumental *Abbey Road* album, the band has expanded its scope to include more than 100 Beatles tunes, from all eras of the Fab Four's career. The band specializes in complete, start-to-finish album performances of The Beatles' masterpieces. Combining attention to detail with a creative exuberance, the band always delights its audiences with its diverse repertoire of hits and more obscure favorites.

Abbey Road LIVE! is made up of four all-star musicians from the infamous Athens GA music scene that gave the world R.E.M., Widespread Panic, and B-52s. Collectively the band members have recorded and toured regularly with Cosmic Charlie, Charlie Mars, and Fuzzy Sprouts. Individual band members have also collaborated with acts such as Indigo Girls, Juliana Hatfield, Mike Houser (Widespread Panic), Danielle Howle and Lemonheads.

While the four lads from Athens GA generally perform as a quartet, they have also been known to recruit the "Magical Mystery Horns" and the "Lonely Hearts Strings", lending authentic accompaniment to the more elaborately orchestrated tunes. The latest addition to the Abbey



Road LIVE! musical arsenal is a real Indian sitar and tablas.

At a typical Abbey Road LIVE! show, audiences young and old can be found gleefully singing along with every word, many in utter disbelief at getting to hear this monumental music performed live; something that even The Beatles themselves never did, since they stopped touring in 1966.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 8:00. ★



LOST IN ZION I

On Thursday, July 27, the CCPA and University of Oregon Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome Zion I back to the WOW Hall.

The Oakland-based MC/Producer Zion I (a.k.a. Zumbi) rests among the top echelon of conscious, party-rocking hip-hop artists. With more than two-dozen albums, mixtapes, EP's and vibrant collaborations with (notables such as Amp Live and DJ K-Genius) under his belt, Zion I has transcended the hip-hop world and evolved into an independent touring artist who appeals to a broad spectrum of the live music community.

Zion I's progressive, stay-true-

to-the-core lyricism and soulful delivery has ignited the audiences of artists across many genres, including reggae-based artists like Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, Rebelution, Collie Buddz and Matisyahu; heavy hitting rockers Linkin Park; EDM icons Bassnectar and Pretty Lights; hip-hop artists like Kendrick Lamar, Wu-Tang, Common, The Game, Too Short, Devin The Dude and MC Black Thought; and cross-over artists such as The Roots, Flying Lotus and Emancipator.

Embracing the warm reception he has received in the burgeoning reggae-rock community, Zion I toured in the summer of 2016 with Slightly Stoopid, SOJA, The

Grouch and Eligh on "The Return Of The Redeye Tour". Prior to this, he has toured internationally while performing at festivals across the globe, most recently the urban lifestyle music and arts festival, Bay Area Vibe, with Bassnectar, Nas and Damian Marley.

Zion I released his new full-length album, *The Labyrinth*, in October 2016. He describes the record as melodic and bass heavy: "It was cool being able to hit the people with some new vibes and give them a current window into my world."

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★



AN EVENING WITH LED ZEPAGAIN

On Sunday, July 30, the CCPA and 96.1 KZEL Rocks proudly welcome Led Zepagain back to the WOW Hall.

Led Zepagain formed in Ventura, California in 1988. The band last performed at the WOW Hall on May 27, 2016. The current lineup consists of vocalist/harmonica player Swan Montgomery ("Robert Plant"), guitar/mandolin player Anthony David ("Jimmy Page"), bassist/keyboardist/mandolinist Jim Wootten ("John Paul Jones") and drummer/percussionist Derek Smith ("John Bonham").

Sony recording artists Led

Zepagain have become highly regarded as the most accurate and authentic replication of Led Zeppelin in the world today. With well over a million downloads on iTunes to their credit, Led Zepagain's popularity has also seeped into pop culture by having been mentioned on the network TV shows *The Gilmore Girls*, *Chicago Fire* and *Bad Judge!*

In January of 2004, Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page himself attended a Led Zepagain show at the House of Blues in Los Angeles. He was absolutely astonished at the bands accuracy stat-

ing, "It's amazing how much you sound like us. You must have grown up on this because you were inside the music, and you paid attention to detail in your presentation... I can tell you guys really love our music!"

This encounter led to the members of Led Zepagain attending Led Zeppelin's 2007 Reunion Concert at London's O2 Arena by invitation of Mr. Page, as well as a surprise visit from Jason Bonham in March of 2009 as he sat in with the band on their encore performance of the song "Rock and Roll".

Led Zepagain was honored to have been featured on AXS TV's "World's Greatest Tribute Bands" in 2014, and were asked to come back for an encore performance in March of 2017 to perform the iconic *Led Zeppelin IV* album in its entirety.

Having played nationally and internationally in such places as Japan, Ireland, Alaska, Germany, Bosnia, Peru, Canada, Kosovo, Mexico City and Guam, Led Zepagain regularly performs to packed houses all over the world. We guarantee that from the sound and the look, to the vintage equipment and costuming, Led Zepagain will be the closest thing that you will ever see to a live Led Zeppelin performance! Come on out and see what Jimmy Page was talking about.

Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 8:00. ★



AVI BUFFALO MEETS HAUNTED SUMMER

On Saturday, August 5, the CCPA and University of Oregon Campus Radio 88.1 FM KWVA proudly welcome Avi Buffalo and Haunted Summer plus Eugene's own This Patch of Sky and Le Rev.

Much was made of it when Avi Buffalo's first album hit the ground running, and for good reason: while his Millikan High School classmates were preoccupied with quaint and youthful

wife Bridgette Moody and John Seasons, who share songwriting duties, the Los Angeles duo Haunted Summer is poised to bring their psychedelic sound to the world.

The Seattle Weekly says, "The pair's blend of experimental guitar riffs, ethereal orchestral features, and Moody's trance-like vocals — plus a ton of oddball electronic sounds that add even more texture — creates a sound

group has crafted a captivatingly-ethereal musical journey through a nostalgic world of young love and long-forgotten memories.

"The five tracks on *Something in The Water* reinforce the group's ghostly vibes, with Moody's ethereal vocals blending seamlessly with spaced-out and hazy orchestral dream-pop, allowing the music to take control of your headspace like a ray of light seeping in through the cracks of a long forgotten and rundown gothic mansion," notes *The Portland Mercury*.

THIS PATCH OF SKY

This Patch Of Sky is an instrumental post-rock band from Eugene. Their music is a gentle, spellbinding tapestry of sounds and emotions. From the quiet hope of "Lyssna" to the weather-beaten contemplation of "Time Destroys Everything, But Our Foundation Remains", they have crafted a style that fuses blissful ambient synthesis with raw, organic embellishments played by strings, guitars and percussion. Their music is a pleasure to listen to and a powerfully sincere and atmospheric option for filmmakers.

Band members are: Kit Day (guitar), Joshua Carlton (guitar), Joel Erickson (synth), Alex Abrams (cello) and TJ Martin-Lokey (drums).

Le Rev is a new band from Eugene that consists of James West, Colin Redmond, and Nick Gamer.

Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★



pursuits, Avi Buffalo was busy making an off-kilter pop gem that eventually bowled over *NME*, *The AV Club*, *Pitchfork*, the BBC, and numerous other outlets on both sides of the Atlantic.

Like a lot of kids his age, Avi celebrated the end of high school in Europe; his overseas journey took him to the festival stages of Reading, Leeds, Glastonbury, the Pavement-curated All Tomorrow's Parties in Minehead, and beyond.

Buffalo is ready to take on the world (again), armed with all of the experience he's compiled over the past few years. And he's made sure the second time around will be just as memorable as the first.

HAUNTED SUMMER

Consisting of husband-and-

that sticks with you."

The songs of Haunted Summer are dreamy and hypnotic, rich with orchestral strings and sultry electronic textures, and with their EP, *Something in the Water*, the




IN THE GALLERY

For the month of July, the WOW Hall Lobby Art Gallery will feature Paintings by Alicia Steinke.

Alicia has been attending classes regularly at the OSLP Arts & Culture Program for three years. She is enthusiastic, lively, and loves to paint. Alicia looks forward to Open Art Studio and paints with energetic, bold strokes; the larger the canvas, and the more paint, the better. Her personality and presence is represented by her abstract, bold, beautiful paintings.

The Lobby Arts Gallery is open for viewing during summer box office hours, 3:00 – 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. ★




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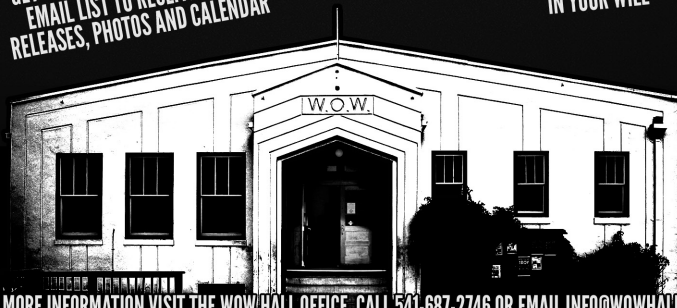
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The Weekend Rocks on



TREVOR HALL: IT TAKES A VILLAGE

By: Kuwa Jasiri

On Friday, July 28, Soul'd Out Productions proudly welcomes Trevor Hall to the Woodman Of the World (W.O.W.) Hall with special guest Ethan Tucker.

Near the Triveni Sangam (the confluence of the holy Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati rivers) lies Yoga-Vedanta Kutir, founded by His Holiness Swami Vishnudevananda Saraswati (1904-1997). Songwriter Trevor Hall is a devotee, and is closely associated with the Ashram that emphasizes a *dharmic* living philosophy including the Sadhana (spiritual practice) of yogic *asanas* (postures), *kriyas* (purification), *pranayama* (breath control), *japa* (mantra), and *puta* (ritual worship). Additionally, the holy space --- now run by Swami Omananda Saraswati -- supports ten impoverished boys, taking full responsibility for their food, lodging, clothing and traditional *vedic* education.

With the help of pocket change left in the donation box at concerts, and an on-line campaign, we fans are responsible for raising over \$15,000 towards the construction of another building across the Ganga River run by Guru Mata Shraddhananda Saraswati -- who both loves and disciplines six girls unable to live with their parents due to poverty and limited access to vital resources.

When in India, or checking in on the children from across the ocean, the raspy rocker speaks "broken Hindi". This lifelong musician began by playing household drums in diapers, later playing harmonica on stage with Dad. His musical environment

growing up included a huge record collection for extended use, and many instruments adorned the home.

The folk artist smiles while reminiscing about the past, "When I was younger, music was just as much a part of life as breathing. It was so natural... I never thought that it would be my 'career path'. I just did it because I loved it, and did not think beyond that. I wish I still thought that way."

Jamaican reggae further awakened the guitarist. "My job is to listen... to what is being told to me... when I am out of the way, and I allow the music to come through," Trevor explains. "It is my duty to share the music that is given to me, otherwise it goes to waste." Clarifying, "the important message [in my music] is to look within."

The lyrics on "Hold Up My Heart" ("You have no choice; sing on, sing on") reflect this mission, alongside with the message in "Ghosts" to think highly of oneself.

With the aide of spirit, and propelled inspirationally by "Will To Live" by fusion rocker Ben Harper, Hall uses the lessons of the previous generation as a pathway in "You Can Not Rush Healing"; honorable words from elders is how all five albums entropy.

Says Hall, "She [my grandma] is kind of in her final stages of life, and does not say much, but when she does, it really means something. She just looked up at the sky while we were sitting with her and she said, 'Is not time such a wonderful gift?'... That was an interesting idea for me. I just let it go, [but] my

grandmother really planted a seed in me. Through her gentle words, she transformed my outlook. I am beginning to look at time more as breath, as space, as growth and healing, as a circle rather than a linear thing that has a beginning and an end. It has been incredibly healing for me and has been a huge learning process." This concept is expressed on the album *KALA* -- which in Sanskrit (the ancient language of India) translates to "time".

This eclectic musician shares "Forgive" as a process through genocide, oppression and grief, emphasizing, "let it rain down for a healing..." "Well I Say" gives a lyrical journey of bold truths, and explorations into emotions. Full surrender, and a shaved head intimately reading totems of ancient European cultures sounds like the next journey for this singer to return to his continent of source. Alone in nature this acoustic performer plays the soothing melodies of "Kabir II" or "Samaya" for comfort, while nurturing collaborations with Bjork to "let it come full circle."

Attending a usually sold out concert you will learn about the largest East Indian spiritual, *Kumbha Mela*, other Hindu gatherings like *Magh-Mela*, as well as Sanskrit chants. Fantasticness continues with the, "family vibe at our shows. We are all together and we are ALL listening. When I am having a really good show, there is no performer and there is no audience. Those lines are gone. We are all listeners and learning together."

To learn more about, and donate to the children of Yoga-Vedanta Kutir Ashram, attend a Trevor Hall concert or go to his personal blog, Rampriyadas. blogspot.com.

Tickets are \$17 in advance, and \$20 day of show. Doors open at 7:00 pm and showtime is 8:00. ★

BABES WITH AXES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

wanted to do more. Our time was limited, so we wanted to do high quality gigs that were enjoyable to us. There was little patience in the group for small bummer gigs far from home when we had serious kids and partners to consider in our lives as well... We should have had official sponsorship from Goodwill, given the amount of time we spent there getting each concert's gigwear together and coordinated. We agreed to go with polka dots on the Main Stage at the Oregon Country Fair. I think that was when people started throwing underwear and bras at us stage. That was fun and rather shocking. I like shocking.

LAURA: Did we play to thousands of people?

BOB: What would you say were some of the highlights of the Babes concert history?

KATIE: I remember what was probably our second gig in Eugene, at some kind of brew fest I think, when TR was nine months pregnant and had to play sitting down on her bass amp. I remember wondering what the vibration effect of that show would be on her birthing process and the resulting awesome kid. There was also a series of shows we did in 1998, when I was about five months pregnant with my first kid. We were doing a tune of TR's call "One Size Fits All" -- a lot for which Laura played a beer bottle like a jug in a jug band, and for which I kind of beat-boxed on the mic and drummed on my pregnant belly. I think the exposure of the pregnant belly drum was a bit shocking to the audience, which pleased me, and my son Oliver did indeed turn out to be a drummer. He is about to turn 19 this summer.

TR: My favorite memory is of ecstatic women throwing panties and bras and cowboy boots onstage at Oregon Country Fair. The muddy mosh pit on the EMU East Lawn for the Willamette Valley Folk Festival was pretty memorable too -- how many folk bands get that?

BOB: In December 1994 you returned to the WOW Hall for two shows and a live CD recording (for WOW *Live Babes*). How did you prepare for that?

LAURA: These were so long ago I can barely remember... but I do recall that for years we had a weekly rehearsal where we'd drink way too much over the course of the night and hash out harmony parts down to the most minute detail.

TR: Wine? Beer? Chocolate?

KAYIE: We practiced a lot in TR's garage, and had to agree on the audience contest.

BOB: A second album, *Live Axe*, was recorded here in 1997. How had your careers progressed in the interim?

TR: We all made solo CDs and were getting airplay locally and on NPR and college stations. For a

non-touring band, we were getting around quite a bit.

KATIE: We could only manage to play a certain number of gigs as a group, so each of us filled up time with other projects. I did some touring with Joanne Rand and the Little Big Band and other friends. Then I got married and my husband's job took us to Chicago. The Babes agreed that we would not break up, but would continue playing together periodically when we could pull a string of gigs together. After I moved, my husband and I brought the Babes out to do a show at the University of Chicago, and we also did a Folk Stage gig in the studio at WFMT in Chicago. That on-air concert probably reached more ears than any other gig we have done. We got a serious run of gigs for a while back in Oregon and at the High Sierra Festival in California that had me traveling back and forth between Chicago and Eugene, and then Vermont and New Hampshire and Eugene, but ultimately, the group collectively decided that we are not very good at touring.

BOB: The farewell show was held here in April '98, we had a six year anniversary concert in December '99, another reunion in April 2000, the "Dialing for Katie" show that December, and the 14 year reunion in 2014. What brings the Babes back together this year?

KATIE: Friendship. Love of playing good music and laughing together. There is no other more rewarding combination I have ever played in. We are basically getting together to have a party together, and inviting the audience to come along and join us if they want. We are going to have a great time on stage and off!

TR: The 2014 reunion was excellent fun but the recording didn't work out, so we want to try again. Lots of changes in our individual lives and we need to process them over wine, beer, chocolate and guitars. So may as well involve our fans and friends as well, right?

LAURA: I'd also say that over the years I personally realized how much I took for granted at the time the magic that we created when we played together. I was so young when we got together and just assumed that making music with people would always be as synergistic as it was with the Babes. In hindsight I think we all realize now what an amazing thing we had going back then.

DEBBIE: I think what made it work so well were the distinct differences in our musical histories, styles and personalities. There was no leader. There was no star. We strummed and cried our way through true collaboration. The live performances reflected that.

BOB: What should fans expect -- a night of nostalgia or something new?

LAURA: Some of both

TR: Probably a mix -- we're

looking at the 2014 set list and definitely want to give some of those newer and less-heard ones another go, and also some brand-new stuff. We're going to try again to get a good recording of the experience!

KATIE: Well, I am not too into dwelling on nostalgia. You never ever can know what to expect at a Babes show except for that it will be fun and a bit oddball, and we have great contests and prizes, and that the music is wonderful and heartfelt.

BOB: Any other projects you want the fans to know about?

TR: TR Kelley's project THE RAVENTONES has released a new album, *Much More Black*; her first since 2003. She also plays bass and sings with STEEL WOOL who also just released a new album titled *Just Maybe*. Both will be available at the show and online, together with the collective BWA discography.

LAURA: I have spun off in various genres over the last decade - after studying and exploring jazz for many years, I released a standards album in 2016; I have been leading Kirtans (devotional Hindu music that is sung in Sanskrit, call and response style); and most recently have been delving heart first back into my singer-songwriter/folk roots, which feels really good, and sorta like I've come home again.

DEBBIE: I haven't focused on any music projects since I started teaching elementary school in 2008. We moved to Maryland three years ago where I've been teaching in a public French Immersion School about ten miles from the National Mall. This will be my first visit back to Eugene since 2014.

KATIE: I've had a second solo project in the works for the past ten years, but I don't know when that will ever be finished. I had a great trio for a number of years in Davis called MudLark, and we put out a sweet CD. I also sang in a choral group -- the Vocal Art Ensemble. We were honored to win the 2012 American Prize for Creative Programming and Collaboration, and have toured England, Scotland and Ireland. I have taken a leave of absence from that group to go back to school. I also have a budding little trio called The Front Porch. And last, but not least, I have been singing in an amazing jazz ensemble called Mercurial Mind and played our first festival gig a few weeks ago at Pondapalooza. All of these things aside, though, I am beside myself with excitement to head up to Eugene to play with the Babes! There is nothing better in the universe.

This is a fully seated show, with seating on a first come, first served basis. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$15 day of show. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★



LIVE! ON STAGE JONATHAN RICHMAN FEAT. TOMMY LARKINS ON THE DRUMS!

On Tuesday, August 1, The Community Center for the Performing Arts and KRVM proudly welcome back singer/songwriter/acoustic guitarist Jonathan Richman alongside drummer Tommy Larkins.

"We don't do concerts, we do parties," states Jonathan Richman.

Richman has been playing music, recording and touring for most of his life. In the early 1970s, Jonathan formed the noted band The Modern Lovers. Tommy Larkins was in the groups Naked Prey, Giant Sand and other popular bands in Tucson, Arizona.

In the years since Jonathan performed here in support of 2010's *O Moon, Queen of Night on Earth*, heavy efforts have been made to name his '70s cult classic anthem "Roadrunner" the official state rock song of his native Massachusetts. The campaign has hit a few road bumps and snags, but hope is not totally lost for the Modern Lovers track.

"There's a simplicity and ease to Jonathan Richman — Modern Lovers founder and frontman and overall pop-rock purveyor — that borders on enigmatic," reports *Village Voice*. "This applies not only to his quirky, whimsical musical worldview, but also to the man himself. Even at 64, Richman exudes an air of boyish wonderment that cannot be fatigued."

Richman's latest release is *Ishkode! Ishkode!* on his new home, Cleveland based record label Blue Arrow Records. "Ishkode" means "fire" in the Ojibwe language.

"[That] reflects the temperature of this release," Blue Arrow writes, "a slow simmer, sensory anticipation, and a pleading desire to address the complete range of possibilities that we can extend ourselves."

"At the point in his career where the attention he gets is mainly from longtime superfans, Jonathan Richman remains on a genuinely independent path, stubbornly so," reports *Pop Matters*. "His latest is countercultural, in that you won't find it on Spotify, iTunes, Amazon, et al., but you can buy it directly from the record label... *Ishkode! Ishkode!* is one of the best albums he's released in the last two decades, though he's released a lot of great ones in the time."

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Doors open at 8:00 pm and showtime is 9:00. ★

U of O Campus - (541) 346-4363

Dance Empowered with Cynthia Valentine
5:30 - 6:30 pm

9/26 Whethan

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
2	3	<p>Tuesday, July 4 La Luz Savila VCR 9:00 PM \$15 Advance \$18 Day of Show Rock www.facebook.com/laluzusa/ www.facebook.com/purosavila/ www.facebook.com/vcrjams/</p>	4	5	<p>Oregon Country Fair 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM Visit the WOW Hall/ KLCC Both at Main Stage Meadow Pack check \$2 www.oregoncountryfair.org/</p>	7	<p>Oregon Country Fair 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM Visit the WOW Hall/ KLCC Both at Main Stage Meadow Pack check \$2 www.oregoncountryfair.org/</p>	8			
<p>Oregon Country Fair 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM Visit the WOW Hall/ KLCC Both at Main Stage Meadow Pack check \$2 www.oregoncountryfair.org/</p>	9	<p>Matisyahu 8:00 pm \$25 Advance \$28 Day of Show Hip-Hop matisyahuworl.com/ www.facebook.com/matisyahu/</p>	10	<p>Abbey Road LIVE! presents Sgt. Pepper 50th Anniversary Show 7:00 PM \$15 Advance \$18 Day of Show A Tribute to The Beatles www.facebook.com/</p>	11	12	<p>Ayla Nereo Cornflower Sounjaneer Matt Grieger 8:30 PM \$12 Advance \$15 Day of Show Electronica aylanereo.com/ www.facebook.com/ayla.nereo.music/cornflowermusic.com/</p>	13	<p>Babes With Axes 7:00 PM \$15 Advance \$15 Day of Show Folk / Seated Show www.facebook.com/babeswithaxes/</p>	14	15
16	17	18	<p>WOW Hall Board of Directors Meeting 6:45 PM Meets at WOW Hall</p>	19	20	21	22				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29					
<p>Led Zepagain 7:00 PM \$13 Advance \$15 Day of Show A Tribute to Led Zeppelin www.zepagain.com/ www.facebook.com/LedZepagain/</p>	30	<p>Live! On Stage Jonathan Richman featuring Tommy Larkins on the Drums! 8:00 PM \$15 Advance \$18 Day of Show Acoustic Rock</p>	31	<p>Music's Edge Rock Camp Performance 7:00 PM \$5 at the Door Student Recital</p>	4	<p>Avi Buffalo Haunted Summer This Patch of sky Le Rev 8:00 PM \$8 Advance \$10 Day of Show Rock www.facebook.com/avibuffalomusic www.facebook.com/HauntedSummermusic</p>	5				

